



Legislation Pushed by the Cicero Institute or In Response to the Rise in People living outside—updated July 2022

Arizona

Arizona SB 1581

Year 2022

Would have barred state housing or outreach funds to any city that does not enforce anti-camping bans locally. This would establish sanctioned encampments and be given funds to establish these internment camps. It sets the rules for the encampments and who should be admitted.

Status: Failed to Pass

California

California Mental Health Forced Confinement

CA SB 1338

Year: 2022

Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program.

Health Crime Families & Children Legal Affairs Government Administration Social Issues Housing & Property Budget Civil Rights Financials

This bill would enact the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, which would authorize specified persons to petition a civil court to create a voluntary CARE agreement or a court-ordered CARE plan and implement services, to be provided by county behavioral health agencies, to provide behavioral health care, including stabilization medication, housing, and other enumerated services to adults who are suffering from schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders and who meet other specified criteria. This bill makes it easier to put people in a mental institution.

Status: Amended and referred back to committee 6/30/2022

California Mental Health Forced Confinement

CA AB 2830

Health Crime Legal Affairs Social Issues Housing & Property Families & Children Financials Labor & Employment

This bill would enact the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, which would authorize specific people to petition a civil court to create a CARE plan and implement services, to be provided by county behavioral health agencies, to provide

behavioral health care, stabilization medication, and housing support to adults who are suffering from schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorders and who lack medical decision making capacity.

Status: No actions taken since April 2022

Georgia

Georgia Anti-Camping Bill

GA 713

This bill would provide for expanded time that a person is confined in a mental institution. It would provide funds to start internment camps. It would also establish guidelines for temporary internment camps and clear up laws to make this possible.

Status: Failed in March 2022

GA SB 535

This bill would provide for targeted state funding for projects such as safe parking areas, structured camping facilities, and individual unit shelters; to provide for allocation of state funding under certain conditions; to provide for grant-allocation contracts and state grants; to provide for the designation of structured camping facilities on state property; to provide for a prohibition on use of undesignated state property for camping; to provide for definitions; to provide for applicability; to provide for violations and penalty; to provide for immunity; to provide for related matters; to provide for a short title; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws.

Status: Failed and referred to committee for further study—a task force was supposed to be set up.

Missouri

Missouri Anti-Camping/Anti-Housing First Bill

MO HB 1606

Housing & Property Law Enforcement & Public Safety Taxes Government Administration Crime Legal Affairs Infrastructure Transportation Public Resources Communications Health Budget Families & Children Financials

This bill would is a direct assault on Housing First and would outlaw sleeping outside in any city in Missouri. It authorizes and provides guidance on internment camps. It favors tiny homes over housing first. It sanctions any city that does not get its homeless numbers down based on point in time count. It allows the State Attorney General to take anti-camping cases and then charge the local community for their prosecution. It directs the local community to reject housing first plans in favor of forced encampments. It forces every facility to have mental health and Alcohol treatment which will drive up costs, but it provides no additional dollars for these activities. No Missouri city can bar a law enforcement officer from enforcing an anti-camping law.

Status: Passed out of Legislature and Signed by the Governor in June 2022 to become law.

Funding for Missouri Housing Programs

MO HB 2614

This provides funding to set up internment camps and regulates what laws govern their status. Most of the provisions in this law were taken up in the HB 1606

Status Failed but were taken up in other legislation and passed

Anti-Camping Law

MO SB 1106

This outlaws encampments on public land. Most of the provisions of this law were taken up in HB 1606 and were later passed.

Status Failed but were taken up in other legislation and passed

Oklahoma

Oklahoma Anti-Camping Bill

OK SB 1381

Municipalities; requiring homeless camps to meet code or be abolished after 30 days. Effective date. Municipalities must inspect all homeless camps and shut them down if they do not meet local building codes especially for water and sewer usage.

Status: Failed in March 2022

Oklahoma Anti-Camping Bill

OK SB 1560

Outlaws camping on public lands. Must provide a referral before a ticket. The state must store the items confiscated and then charge the individual a fee to get it back. Each city must submit a plan for how to end camping outside.

Status Failed in March 2022

Tennessee

Tennessee Anti-Camping Bill

TN HB 978

*Crime Legal Affairs Transportation Public Resources Law Enforcement & Public Safety
Infrastructure Housing & Property*

Criminal Offenses - As enacted, creates a Class C misdemeanor offense, punishable by a \$50 fine and community service work, for camping along a controlled-access highway or entrance or exit ramp; expands Equal Access to Public Property Act of 2012, under which it is a Class E felony offense for a person to camp on property owned by the state knowing that the area on which the camping occurs is not specifically designated for use as a camping area, to apply the offense of unauthorized camping to all public property. This bill forces communities to make it illegal to camp.

Status: Governor did not sign but it became law as of July 1, 2022.

Texas

Texas Anti-Camping Ordinance

TX HB 1925

This bill makes it a crime to camp on public land and specifies the specific things that are prohibited on public land like cooking or making a fire. Local communities cannot authorize camping on public land unless there is a recreational purpose or provided a previous permit for the purpose of camping by the state. Can charge for the storage of confiscated items, and must offer alternative places to legally camp. If a local community is going to allow for an internment camp it must include services and all the amenities of housing.

Status: Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Effective Date: September 1, 2021

Washington

Washington Anti-Camping and Anti-Needle Exchange

WA HB 1526

Ties local homeless funding to prohibition on camping and needle exchange programs. Authorizing local option revenue for homelessness services, subject to specified conditions, including prohibiting supervised injection sites and requiring local restrictions on camping on public property

Status: Failed to pass out of committee in January 2022.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin State funding for certain Housing Services and Prohibitions on Public Camping

WI AB 604

This bill forces the state grants to show performance measures for reducing homelessness by housing individuals or finding jobs. It requires the hiring of housing navigators. It establishes internment camps within the State. It establishes criteria for these internment camps. It outlaws anyone from camping on public lands. It is not as clear on the definition or the demand that local jurisdictions enforce these laws.

Status: Currently in the Senate but no actions taken since March 2022.